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NO. 25.

BULLETIN OF FOREIGN PLANT INTRODUCTIONS.

December 17 to 31, 1909.

NEW PLANT IMMIGRANTS.

AKEBIA LOBATA. 26424. Presented by Mr. A. J. Perkins. A vine from the slender stems of which baskets are made at Aomori, Japan. It is used as an ornamental in the United States. For distribution later.

ANDROPOGON HALEPENSIS VIRGATUS. 26301. From Algiers. Presented by Dr. Trabut, who says it is a moderately good forage, vigorous but not stoloniferous and would be interesting for hybridizing with Sorghum vulgare. For distribution later.

ANONA LONGIFLORA. 26440. From Altadena, California. Budwood taken from the tree which produced the seed sent in under S.P.I. Number 26298. See this number for description. For distribution later.

BRASSICA PEKINENSIS. 26422-423. Two varieties of cabbage from Hwai Yuan, China. 26422, T'ang pei ts'ai (Soup white vegetable.) 26423, P'iao pei ts'ai (Dipper white vegetable.)

CITRULLUS VULGARIS. 26421. Yellow fleshed watermelon from Hwai Yuan, China. Native name Hwang jang hsi kwa. For distribution later.

CITRUS AURANTIUM. 26425. Presented by Mr. A. J. Perkins. 'Yusu'. A Japanese sour orange; used as a lemon and as a stock. For distribution later.

CITRUS TRIFOLIATA. 26426. Seed from tree in the Yokohama Nursery Company's grounds, presented by Mr. A. J. Perkins. For use in citrus breeding experiments.

CITRUS TRIFOLIATA. 26460. Presented by Prof. Y. Kozai, Director Agricultural Experiment Station, Tokyo, Japan. This is a large-seeded variety. To be used for stocks.

D. G. Fairchild

CUCURBITA PEPO. 26427-428. Two varieties of squash from Japan, presented by Mr. A. J. Perkins. 26427. 'Chirimen'. Has a rough, knotted exterior and therefore named after a kind of silk which has rough knots in its texture. 26428. 'Kikuza'. Has a smooth surface as its name signifies. Both these kinds are said to have yellow meat 1½ inches thick and fine flavor when boiled. For distribution later.

DIOSPYROS KAKI. 26429. Seeds from a non-astringent persimmon from Japan presented by Mr. A. J. Perkins. For distribution later.

EUGENIA MICHELLI. 26409. Plants grown at the Department Greenhouse and numbered for convenience in recording distribution.

EUONYMUS OXYPHYLLUS. 26430. Ornamental shrub from Botanical Garden, Sapporo, Japan, presented by Mr. A.J, Perkins. For distribution later.

FEDIA SCABIOSAEFOLIA, 26431. 'Omineshi'. An ornamental herbaceous perennial from Morioka, Japan, presented by Mr. A. J. Perkins. For distribution later.

FIRMIANA SIMPLEX. 26432. 'Ao-giri'. Large ornamental tree from Morioka, Japan, presented by Mr. A. J. Perkins. For distribution later.

FUNTUMIA ELASTICA. 26184. Seed of a rubber tree from West Africa presented by Mr. Gilbert Christy of London. It is a large forest tree and of considerable importance as a rubber producer. Mr. Christy suggests that it be planted in Cuba. For distribution later.

FURCRAEA BEDINGHAUSI. 26186. From Nice, France. A fiber plant which resists -5 to -7°C, and which Dr. Proschowsky says is hardier than any other Furcraea he knows.

HORDEUM SPP. 26457-459, 26433-434. Five varieties of barley presented by Mr. A. J. Perkins. 26456-459 hulless barley from Experiment Station, Nara, Japan. 26433 a winter barley procured by Prof. Gentau Tamada from Morioka, Japan.

26434, 'Marumi' (round seed) from Messrs. Aizawa & Co., Sapporo, Japan.

IPOMOEA SINUATA Ortega. 26411. Seed of a handsome native Ipomoaceous vine which climbs over shrubs in Valley of Iguala, Mexico. Presented by Dr. David Griffiths. For distribution later.

PANICUM SP. 26267. From Cape Town, South Africa. 'Blaauw-zaad'. "This is an indigenous grass which is considered to be one of the best grasses in the Orange River Colony, where in certain parts it is practically the only fodder which the stock have." (Thornton.)

PERILLA NANKINENSIS. 26435-436. 26435, white or green leaved variety, used as an ornamental bedding plant like Coleus. 26436, purple leaved variety. This is known in Japan as Shiso. It is edible, being used as a condiment in cooking and to color pickles in combination with Prunus mume. For distribution later.

QUERCUS AEGILOPS. 26242. Presented by Hon. F. B. Woods, British Consul, Patras, Greece. This species of evergreen oak is the one furnishing the 'Valonia' of commerce, one of the best tanning materials known. The acorn cups are the parts containing the tannin.

STIZOLOBIUM SP. 26289. From Kentung, Burma. Presented by Rev. R. Harper who says it is a very thorny creeper. For distribution later.

STIZOLOBIUM SPP. 26292-293. Two varieties of Stizolobium growing wild in southern India. Presented by Rev. Geo. N. Thomssen, Bapatla, South India. For distribution later.

VANILLA FRAGRANS. 26410. Plants grown at the Department Greenhouse. For immediate distribution.

Following is a list of seeds turned over to this Office by Dr. R. H. True, Physiologist in Charge Drug Plant Investigations, for distribution:

ALTHAEA OFFICINALIS (Marshmallow)	26453
ATROPA BELLADONNA (Deadly nightshade)	26442
CALENDULA OFFICINALIS (Pot marigold)	26443
CANNABIS SATIVA	26444
CARUM CARUI (Caraway)	26445
CONIUM MACULATUM	26447
CORIANDRUM SATIVUM (Coriander)	26448
DIGITALIS PURPUREA (Foxglove)	26449
FOENICULUM VULGARE (Fennel)	26450
INULA HELENIUM (Elecampane)	26451
LOBELIA INFLATA (Indian tobacco)	26452
MONARDA FISTULOSA - Horsemint	26454
NEPETA CATARIA - Catnip	26446
SESAMUM ORIENTALE (White sesame)	26456
SPIGELIA MARALANDICA (Maryland pinkroot)	26455

NOTES FROM FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS.

CHINA, Shanghai. A.J. Perkins, Dec. 6. Informs us that Dr. Orida is preparing an illustrated book on persimmons and has about a hundred watercolors of this fruit. Sends notes on bamboos given by Prof. Nagano of Gifu.

INDIA, Poona. Empress Botanical Garden, Dec. 2. Thinks varieties of mangos could be developed by raising seedlings. Offers to obtain fruit of the various kinds known there, seed of which could be used for this purpose.

INDIA, Saharanpur. Government Botanical Gardens, Nov. 29. Sends a report on varieties of mangos grown there, giving names and brief descriptions of 55 varieties.

MEXICO, Guadalajara. Samuel E. Magill, Dec. 18. Is arranging to secure and send samples of the various kinds of corn grown in the state of Jalisco.

RUSSIA, St. Petersburg. F.N. Meyer, Dec. 9. Visited the Imperial Botanical Garden and found it very rich in Central Asian material. There are probably more than 25 spp. of Tamarix alone, some of great value as ornamental or sand-binding plants in alkaline soils. Says there are many important botanical works in Russian that are not published in any other language and it is important that we get in closer touch with the Russian scientists, as they have much the same problems to face in agriculture that we have. Among plants of interest in the Caucasus he mentions several varieties of hazelnuts; Lasiogrostis splendens which he says the natives use for making mats; several splendid oaks; Fagus caucasicus, an interesting tree, and a very robust ivy, Hedera colchica, which grows to enormous size. There is a new species of red currant in the Altai mountains which has very large racemes of berries. This has not been introduced by the Russians. There is another currant near Yakutsk (Ribes dicusha) which stands remarkably low temperatures. Sorbus sambucifolia in Kamschatka produces edible berries where ordinary fruits cannot even be thought of. Has found out the native names and locations of the fine Turkestan grapes.

RECENT VISITORS.

CHINA. Mr. H. K. Fung. Is at present a student at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. When he finishes his course there he is going to have charge of an Experiment Station in Canton. Is much interested in the propagation of Chinese fruits.

CHINA. John Berkin, Kuling, is now visiting in Washington. Mr. Berkin lives at the summer resort, so to speak, of the Chinese missionaries, a delightfully located spot south of Hankow. He is much interested in the introduction of fruits into China and will gladly assist, so far as is compatible with his missionary work, in interesting the missionaries who come to Kuling in getting and sending in seeds of valuable plants. Is familiar with varieties of Chinese dates,

wild plums, wild cherries, some remarkable wild grapes and Chinese pears. Reports that the Yang taw (Actinidia chinensis), eaten with sugar and cream like strawberries, is a delicious fruit. Promises to send any seeds and plants which may be desired from his region. Expects to arrive in China May, 1910.

PENNSYLVANIA. Prof. Robert W. Hale, Lehigh University, South Bethlehem, Pa. Is establishing an arboretum in connection with the University and is particularly interested in the question of stocks for the production of dwarf fruit trees.

SPAIN, Madrid. Hon. Maddin Summers, American Consul. Mr. Summers was instrumental in the introduction of the Spanish winter muskmelons. These are a delicious fruit - he thinks quite as good or better than our best cantaloupes. They are gathered and hung in cellars to ripen. This introduction promises to be one of great value.

TEXAS. Mr. J. P. Borden of Pierce, Texas, has engaged the services of Mr. F. W. Clarke and wants to test any plants which have promise for the coastal region of Texas. These experiments will be under Mr. Clarke's direct supervision and will be in the nature of private experiments.